



The Most Livable
City in America

Sustainable Saint Paul Briefings

September 2013

The Sustainable Saint Paul Briefings is intended to provide quick updates on sustainable initiatives and projects in the City of Saint Paul.



Solar Projects in Saint Paul

In 2008, the Cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis were recognized by the U.S. Department of Energy as Solar American Cities. The City of Saint Paul took this opportunity to partner with other organizations to become a leader in the region in installing and promoting solar energy. In fact, Saint Paul has the Midwest's largest solar thermal installation on the Saint Paul RiverCentre, operated by District Energy St. Paul (see photo on the right).



The RiverCentre's Parking Ramp also has a remarkable photovoltaic solar installation (see photo on the left).

You may have seen other solar installations in Saint Paul. If you are unable to check them out in person, see a profile of the projects at: www.stpaul.gov/solar

CityLabs: The Associated Colleges of the Twin Cities Partners with the City of Saint Paul

The Associated Colleges of the Twin Cities (ACTC) is partnering for the second consecutive year with the City of Saint Paul to complete projects aimed at advancing the city's sustainability initiatives. ACTC is a consortium of five private colleges and universities including Augsburg College, Hamline University, Macalester College, St. Catherine University and the University of Saint Thomas.



The CityLabs program invites experienced ACTC faculty to integrate projects generated and guided by city staff into their coursework, directing student energy and innovation toward the city's most persistent sustainability issues. Last year, CityLabs completed eight projects in collaboration with Saint Paul's Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and Safety & Inspections departments. This fall, students will be working on five projects, including:

- Emerald Ash Borer Readiness for Residential Saint Paul,
- LED Planning for Public Lighting in Saint Paul,
- Putting Water to Work: Reclaiming Rainwater on Dale Street,
- Designing a Digital Atlas: Database Development for Saint Paul, and
- Traffic Signal Data Infrastructure Study.

To watch videos and read more about the CityLabs program, projects, and events, please visit: <http://citylabsatactc.org/>

Water Treatment in Saint Paul



Curious how water is treated in Saint Paul? Attend McCarrons Water Treatment Plant's open house on October 10, 2013 from 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., located at 1900 Rice Street, Saint Paul, 55113 ([Google map](#)). Attendees will have the opportunity to tour the treatment plant, learn about water sources that provide Saint Paul Regional Water Services customers with water, and much more.

And, did you know Saint Paul water customers can pay water bills online? Go paperless and [sign up today!](#) To learn more about SPRWS, visit: www.stpaul.gov/water

Reducing Waste

- Have a reusable item but don't want it anymore? Give it away through the [Twin Cities Free Market](#), a program of Eureka Recycling.
- Have a collection of holiday cards you no longer want? Donate it to [St. Jude's Ranch for Children's Recycled Cards Program](#).
- Not sure what to do with non-recyclable paper? Get creative with [gift wrapping ideas](#) from Eureka Recycling.
- Tired of collecting phonebooks? [Recycle them and/or opt out](#) of receiving future editions.
- Too much junk mail filling your mailbox? Contact the vendor directly and opt out of unwanted solicitations. Also, go paperless where you can. Check with banks, utility companies, and other companies you interact with to see if you can make the switch and receive your information electronically.

See more tips on [reducing your waste](#).

For more information on Sustainable Saint Paul, visit www.stpaul.gov/sustainable. Questions? Contact Pa Vang at Pa.Vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us or call 651-266-8533.